

Idaho Association for Play Therapy Newsletter

October 2013



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Happy Fall!

It is so hard to believe it is October and the Annual APT conference is already over! Continue reading for a firsthand account of the conference in Palm Springs and why it's worth saving for now....I hope you all can experience an APT conference at least once in your life time, hands down, you will not be disappointed. Next year APT will be having their conference at the Westin Galleria Hotel in Houston, Texas October 7th through October 12, 2014. Start saving now and let us see how many Idahoans can make this trip next year!

The board of directors is continuing to work hard to prepare for the arrival of Pam Dyson, MA, LPC, RPT (2013 APT Play Therapy Professional Education and Training Award winner!) The training will be held in Boise on April 4th and 5th, 2014. The venue has not been decided at this time, but it will be announced as soon as decisions are made.

While in Palm Springs, Idaho was recognized for two awards!!!! First, we were recognized as the second place winner of the national membership campaign, which means we achieved the 2nd highest percentage of growth in membership from January 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013 across the country. Secondly, we were recognized as an APT Gold Branch recipient for 2012/2013! Congrats to Idaho!!! This continues to be a goal for our chapter and we are currently in the middle of the 2013/2014 year, hoping to obtain Gold branch once again! It is always a great accomplishment for Idaho. Our membership numbers, makes Idaho one of the smaller branch chapters, and receiving this award despite our size is commendable. I would, however, like to see Idaho grow even larger and we need your help with this goal. Please talk play!! Share your experiences with play therapy with everyone you know. Order brochures through the APT website store (www.a4pt.org) hand them out to everyone you know. This is a great way to educate others on play and on APT as well as IDAPT. Remember, for each new recruit you make, you will earn an Idaho Spud!!! One Spud is equal to \$5.00 off your next IDAPT conference – that is easy, just talk about what we all love, encourage and invite others to join and you save money on your training! Oftentimes, people do not join associations because they are not directly invited to do so. So, please, please, get out there and ask people to join today!!

Playfully Yours,
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TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Idaho Association for Play Therapy Spring Conference



April 4th and 5th, 2014 In Boise
Pam Dyson MA, LPC, RPT

Ready, Set, Play: The ABC's and Beyond of Play Therapy

And

All in the Family: Using Play Therapy with Families

This is a great opportunity new and experienced play therapists to come together to learn some new techniques, network with others around the state, and have fun.

Registration will be available through our website:
www.idahoplaytherapy.org

2014 National Conference

2014 APT conference will be in Houston October 7, 2014 through October 12, 2014.

Proposals for trainings are being accepted from December 1, 2013 through Jan 31st, 2014.

APT NEWS

APT Announces RPT-S Program Revisions

These revisions to our RPT/S program were extensively discussed and endorsed by Chair John Seymour and the 42-member Registration & Continuing Education Committee (the acronym "RPT/S" refers to both RPT and RPT-S credentials):

1. Further streamlined to add clarity since last revised in 2005.
2. RPT/S applicants do not need to document their initial 2,000 hours and 2 years of supervised clinical general experience if this component is required to obtain state licensure (or certification).
3. RPT/S renewals must document only 18 hours of play therapy specific continuing education during each 36-month continuing education cycle - and need not document any additional mental health continuing education hours as such are addressed by licensure.
4. Effective April 1, 2014:
 - RPT-S applicants must EITHER be state-approved supervisors and complete six (6) hours of play therapy specific supervisor training OR completed 30 hours of supervisor training, at least six (6) of which are play therapy specific.
 - RPT-S renewals must obtain 6 hours of supervisor training during each 36-month continuing education cycle.

A special thanks to the committee for its patient and steady participation in this lengthy but important review process. Because summaries appear above, learn more about our RPT/S program and the above changes by consulting APT's online [RPT/S Guide](#), [Application](#), [FAQ](#), or contact [APT](#) directly!

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN!

- Our 2013 national poll revealed that 32.4% and 16.1% of American adults are familiar with the terms "play therapy" and "registered play therapist" respectively.
- To increase those numbers, APT will soon launch a two-tier [national public awareness campaign](#) (see <http://www.a4pt.org/download.cfm?ID=30866> for more info) and ask for your assistance.

Membership Campaign.....

Reminder to all members: WE NEED YOU!!!! With your help we can expand our chapter into a larger and stronger organization. The Board of Directors of IDAPT has instituted a rewards program for all of you who recruit and sponsor new members in IDAPT/APT. In the past, we have had our “Idaho Spuds” rewards program. Below are the guidelines for both the Idaho Spuds program and our NEW membership campaign competition.

Idaho Spuds

IDAPT Spuds represent money to be used for IDAPT purchases. They may be redeemed when paying annual conference registration and workshop fees. Individual IDAPT members in good standing earn IDAPT Spuds between April and March of each year by sponsoring new members per this formula:

- **5 APT Bucks for each new Professional member (individual US mental health professional with Master’s or higher mental health degree)**
- **5 APT Bucks for each new Affiliate member (individual full-time mental health graduate student)**

Membership Application Options

A new membership is recorded when APT receives a) an IDAPT/APT dues payment in full and, if applicable, a Branch dues payment in full and b) one of the following completed applications:

- **Online application in the *Join APT* section of the APT website, www.a4pt.org**

APT 2013 International Annual Conference A firsthand account by your president.....

The theme for the annual conference was “Relax, Rejuvenate and Renew!” The theme alone was enough to get me to the conference this year. Wow! And what a great conference it was!!! I always enjoy the excellence in training that is provided, however, I especially enjoy the networking, the support from others doing our work and the playful fun! There is fun everywhere you go.....sitting through trainings can be long, draining and well, honestly, boring at times. At APT, however, the workshops are always filled with such playful topics and boisterous speakers one could not possibly become bored. Unlike other CE trainings most professionals endure, at APT you get to sing, clap, blow bubbles, role play with some and storytelling with others, write poems and draw pictures and play new techniques being taught like SPLAT. Another tradition at APT of course is the “at your fingertips” shopping with the many different vendors. This is always a fun way to take a break if needed!

Of course, I was very tempted and succumbed, to sneak away one afternoon just to enjoy the beautiful weather at the pool and spend quality time with another play therapist relaxing, rejuvenating and renewing! We were living the theme of the conference now! The Westin Mission Hills Resort & Spa was beautiful! Every time we walked outside, we were reminded of the beauty in our world. The palm trees were everywhere and the sun was shining all week, even on the one day it sprinkled a little. The blue sparkling water pools and the warm fireside lounge were both quite the hit. These made for a fun place to meet and talk with other play therapists from all over the world. It was wonderful!

I was in awe at the organization of APT. Despite there being over 800 participants in attendance, it never felt crowded or like you had to wait real long to do anything. I have been to trainings in the past where you waited in such long lines at lunch you had to rush through to make it to your conference. There was ample time to shop, eat, relax, play or simply sit around talking each and every day.

This year, APT treated participants with the first EVER sit down awards dinner. Not only was this a special time to recognize the Key Award winners, but Bill Burns, CEO of APT, announced his retirement to occur March 31, 2014. Therefore, this dinner was especially meaningful to those of us who remember when he was first hired on with APT and others who merely just met him. If you ever met Bill, you know you are NOT just a number to him. He was a fabulous asset to APT AND to Play Therapy, over the last decade plus. He always said, “I’m not a play therapist, I’m a businessman.” But I truly believe he turned that businessman into a play expert. He helped spread play therapy across the world one contact at a time. He too learned the power of play and lives a life where he shares that with all of those whom he meets. I am forever grateful to Bill Burns and wish him the greatest and most playful retirement ever!!! Three cheers to APT for putting on one of the BEST conferences I have attended in 15 years!! I am excited about Houston and am counting down the weeks (50 and counting) to return to my play family reunion! It’s truly the best reunion ever!



Interested in running an ad in the IDAPT NEWSLETTER?

If you are interested in running an ad in the IDAPT newsletter,
please submit the copy to tvplaytherapy@live.com

2 X 2 - \$5.00

4 X 4 - \$10.00

half page - \$25.00

full page - \$50.00

Please contact an Executive Council member or Molly Gratton
at (208) 860-0790 about your interest in placing an advertisement.

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT:
<http://www.idahoplaytherapy.org/>